1:Stanford U. S-4, 5 1956 AF 12 North China
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PREFACE

121 This is one of five monographs prepared by the staff of the China Project at Stanford University in fulfillment of a twelve-month subcontract with the Human Relations Area Files, Incorporated, New Haven, Connecticut.

The main purpose of this monograph is to present insofar as possible a concise account of the social, economic, and political conditions and problems of the North China Region, which is comprised of the provinces of Hopei and Shansi. Although primary emphasis is placed on developments since the Chinese Communists assumed the reins of government in the latter part of 1949, whenever necessary the region's past is touched upon.

121 114 It may be helpful to point out to readers unfamiliar with the Chinese source material used for the preparation of this monograph that, generally official publications published before 1949 in Nanking or Chungking were of Nationalist origin, whereas those dated from 1949, unless their place of publication is Taipei, Hong Kong, or some other non-Communist area, are Communist sources. Moreover, two sources, the Survey of China Mainland Press and Current Background, although prepared by the American Consulate General in Hong Kong,

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121 are compilations of translations from Chinese
● 114 Communist publications; unless the citations contained therein are specifically attributed to American editors, they refer to translations from Communist newspapers and magazines and neither represent nor reflect the views of the United States Government. The critical use of Communist and pro-Communist sources has been the principal means of analyzing developments in Soviet Russia. Scholars of China are now obliged by circumstances to employ similar sources in their study of contemporary China.

121 The regional approach embodied in this monograph represents an attempt to conform with the suggestion of our Prime Contractor. Although certain topics which cannot be properly treated on a regional basis have been discussed in more general terms, the bulk of this monograp is comprised of regional information. Since Communist China is undergoing many rapid chang the studies contained in this monograph should be brought up to date at frequent intervals.

This monograph is to be regarded as a cooperative project, and no attempt will be made to identify the authors of the individual studies included. It is enough to mention the members of our staff.

2: Gamble S-S (1926-1933)1954 AF12 North China AF12

Foreword

000 AS A PEOPLE the Chinese attach little importance to facts or exactness. If a Chinese is asked what is the population of China, he would say about four hundred million; another would say about four hundred fifty million; still another, about four hundred seventy-five million. 114 The common Chinese expression ch'a-pu-tou, meaning "nearly this" or "about that", is widely used by the educated and the uneducated alike. Being exact is not an outstanding virtue of the Chinese people.

However, in the modern world where science has played such a vital part in bettering human lives, the Chinese can no longer ignore it and continue with the attitude of ch'a-pu-tou. They have to learn to appreciate facts as well as to gather facts. This is what makes the pioneering survey work of Mr. Sidney Gamble, over a quarter of a century ago, so significant in the stimulation of a fact-finding consciousness among the educated and the students of social sciences.

Mr. Gamble did his pioneering work in social surveys first in Peking in 1918. This resulted in his publishing an admirable study of the life in Peking, entitled *Peking, A Social Survey*, which created wide interest among students of social sciences and rural reconstruction workers.

Through his years of hard experience in China, Mr. Gamble learned that it was not a simple matter to gather facts, especially accurate facts, in a country like China. In the first place, during the 1920s there were few, if any, organizations doing a similar kind of survey which could be used to help supplement or check one's facts. In the second place, the people, as a rule, were suspicious of any kind of investigation because the investigators might be government agents gathering information for more taxes or even conscription. In the third place, even if the people were good-natured and willing to cooperate, being illiterate and uninformed, they were not able to answer intelligently or accurately many of the questions concerning economics or education.

Mr. Gamble came to be associated with the Chinese Mass Education Movement in 1926 when the Movement first went to Ting Hsien to

[pp. iv-vi has no textual material]

2:Gamble S-5 (1926-1933) 1954 AF12 North China AF12

114 initiate its first rural reconstruction pilot plant in a county of 400,000 people located in Hopei province, some six hours by train from Peking. At that time the Movement undertook only a literacy and literature program. The survey work consisted of preliminary experimental studies. Experience with life in the villages plus the first results of the survey work soon demonstrated the need for the Movement to expand its program to include the economic and social betterment of the rural people.

The Movement realized that without accurate knowledge of the economic and social conditions of the people it would be impossible for it to plan rural reconstruction intelligently. It was also demonstrated that because of the educational program and the cordial teacher-student relationship first established between the Movement and the local people by village People's Schools and strengthened later through cooperatives, health clinics, and agricultural improvement programs, the villagers were not only willing but also able to answer questions intelligently. Even more important, they understood that these facts were necessary as a scientific basis for the Movement to formulate its rural reconstruction program for the betterment of their county. Many of the literate members of the community served as assistants in the social investigation.

With Mr. Gamble's expert knowledge and assistance and the cooperation the Movement had from the village people, an effective partnership was formed to carry out a hsien wide survey. It played such an important part in the Movement's rural reconstruction program that a separate Department of Social Survey was organized, one of the earliest of its kind in China. This first pilot survey carried out in Ting Hsien served as a pattern for other rural reconstruction centers, and Ting Hsien came to be known as the "Scientific Ting Hsien".

000 The Department of Survey published the results of its studies in three volumes in Chinese: *Ting Hsien, A Social Survey*; *Ting Hsien Yang Ke*; and *Ting Hsien Village Industry*. These books exerted influence all over China, especially among the students of social sciences and the rural reconstruction workers. Later, even provincial governments, such as Szechuan in West China and Kiangsi in Central China, established, upon the advice of the Movement, special Bureaus of Survey as an integral part of their reconstruction programs.

This idea and practice of social surveys has been an indispensable aid

4: Burgess E-4, 5 (1926-1927) 1928 AF12 North China AF12

CHECKS ON THE GENERAL CHARACTER AND ORGANIZATION OF THE GUILDS

The information gathered tends to confirm the impression that there are certain general characteristics common to almost all guilds. The fact that three different investigators made this study and found similar characteristics would seem to make it relatively more certain that the results were correct than if the study had been made by one person only.

The number of guilds studied is given in Table III.

TABLE III

NUMBER OF GUILDS REPORTED ON BY EACH INVESTIGATOR

	Hand Craft	Professional	Commercial	Total
By Chang	10	4	9	23
By Chang and Wang	1	2	2	5
By Wang	5	1	4	10
By Wang and Lee		1	1	2
By Lee			2	2
	16	8	18	42

OTHER PRINTED REPORTS AND STUDIES OF CHINESE GUILDS

In the extensive literature on China in European languages one finds little material on guilds.[1] The outstanding work on the subject is Morse's *The Gilds of China*. This book deals largely with the general aspects of guilds found in South and Central China. The article by Macgowan on "Chinese Gilds, Chambers of Commerce and Trade Unions"[2] is of a similar nature. The other works referred to simply

[1] *Cf.* Bibliography, p. 262.

[2] Macgowan, "Chinese Gilds, Chamber of Commerce and Trade Unions," *Journal* of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, 1888-1889.

4: Burgess E-4, 5 (1926-1927) 1928 AF12 North China AF12

114 give a general outline of the organization and functions of guilds without affording detailed study of comparative material.

CHECK ON MATERIAL AFFORDED BY REPETITION OF QUESTIONS IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE

128 A glance at the lengthy questionnaire, replies to which were the basis of this study, will show that many questions were repeated frequently. For example, Question I on the purpose of founding the guilds includes the following sub-questions:

1. Maintaining prices
2. Protection from officers
3. Discouraging competition
4. Other purposes

while question VIII concerning the functions of the guilds is divided into two main heads:

1. Fixing prices
2. Standardizing goods

The subject of prices is thus brought out in both questions. It will also be noted that Questions I and VII deal with the same general idea while replies to I: 4 might well embody the same information as replies to VIII: 2.[1] There was thus frequent opportunity for contradictions if answers were careless. Such contradictions were, however, negligible in number.

In most divisions of the questionnaire, after formal inquiries had been made, there was a series of questions designed for the purpose of ascertaining whether the procedures reported in the first half of the questions were actually carried out. There is a tendency in Chinese organizations for actual practice to differ greatly from the declared or formally

[1] *Cf.* Questionnaire, pp. 251-256.

6:Young et. al. E-5 (1928-1929) 1930 AF12 North China AF12

CHAPTER II

History, Geography and Ecology

I. Some historical observations on Ching Ho Town.

The history of Ching Ho as an important market town dates back about fifty years only. There is no written material regarding the town, or even of the county in which it is situated. In *Shuen Tien Fu Chi* (順天府誌) and *Je Fu Tung Chi* (畿輔通志), the two most important works dealing with the history and geography of the neighbourhood of Peping the name of Ching Ho is not even mentioned. The former monograph was completed in 1885 and the latter was first compiled about two hundred years ago and revised in 1884, This would lead us to believe that the town of Ching Ho did not occupy an important position in the 1880's. However, the Ching Ho river received a considerable amount of careful and laborious attention from the writers of these books, and there are many references to it in the text and footnotes. The Ching Ho camp was also mentioned, and marked on the map at a spot about five miles east of the site of the present town of Ching Ho.

From what we can gather from the literary works and from the old inhabitants of Ching Ho we con safely say that Ching Ho has a history of about fifty years as an important market town. Some fifty years ago

7: Gamble S-5 (1926-1927) 1933 AF12 North China AF12

HOW CHINESE FAMILIES LIVE IN PEIPING

I

CHINA'S new economic program stresses the need of a better life for the workers, but it has been difficult to discover just how the workers live, and what would constitute a better life for them, since only within recent years has any attempt been made to study the budgets of Chinese families.

The studies made before 1926 were based, as a rule, on information secured by interviews and questionnaires. The member of the family who had most to do with its financial affairs was asked to estimate the family income and the expenditure for food, clothing, rent, heat and light, and miscellaneous items during a month, or a longer period of time. The financial transactions of a Chinese working-class family are apt to be accurately remembered by them, since the amount of money handled is so small, and so much care must be exercised in spending. This fact makes it possible to secure reasonably accurate estimates of family income and expenses.

With growing interest in the economic life of the workers, however, need has arisen for the greater accuracy of family budget figures based, not on estimates, but on